

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following amended paragraph.

[0005] With the proliferate use of credit cards, health cards and identification cards there is an increased potential for loss, theft and fraudulent misuse of these cards and the data contained on them. Pockets, wallets and purses do not offer the anti-theft characteristics necessary to protect these valuable objects. Money belts, often used to store such items, are cumbersome and uncomfortable to use. There have been several attempts to develop an anti-theft device to hold these types of items. One example is found in U.S. Pat. No. ~~4,086,787~~ 4,068,787 entitled "Money Buckle" issued to Craighead on Jan. 17, 1978. Craighead teaches a storage device that is mounted to a belt and is particularly adapted for paper objects and uses a flap to secure the contents within the storage chamber. Craighead is not adapted for securely storing a plurality of modern credit cards and identification cards. The flap closure and outward positioning of the Craighead device leaves such valuable items stored within it vulnerable to loss and theft. Furthermore, Craighead cannot be easily demounted from the belt to which it is attached.

Please replace paragraph [0044] with the following amended paragraph.

[0044] Referring to FIG. 10, there is shown yet another embodiment of the looping member. Referring to view A, in this embodiment looping member (140) comprises three sections: a first section (142) has a first end (144) fixed to the second elongate closing body (20) and a second free end (146) having a groove (148) therein. There is a second section (150) having a first end (152) fixed to the second elongate closing body (20) and a second free end (154) having a groove (156) therein. The first section (142) free end (146) and the second section (150) free end (154) are opposed to each other across a gap (160). Filling gap (160) is third section (162) having a first end (164) and a tongue (166). The tongue (166) is adapted for engagement with groove (148). The third section (162) has a second end (168) with a tongue (170) adapted for engagement with groove (156). Third section (162) is lockably removeable from the gap (160) by a locking means (176). When the third section is out of the gap, the looping member can engage a strap into slot (~~180~~ 181). Subsequently, the third member can be locked in place to close gap (160).